(c) Efforts underway in the country for strengthening transmission and distribution systems include optimum development of transmission network based on feasibility analysis and techno-economic evaluation, inter regional transmission to enable exchanges across the country and matching development with consumer level requirements.

Non-conventional energy projects in NER

2215. SHRI O.T. LEPCHA: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the ongoing non-conventional energy projects in the country, particularly in the North Eastern Region, including Sikkim;

(b) the present status of the above power projects; and

(c) by when the above projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) to (c) Renewable power projects aggregating around 2000 MW are likely to be set up in the country during 2007-08. In the North-Eastern Region, including Sikkim, 78 small hydro power projects .aggregating 102.17 MW which are under various stages of implementation are likely to be completed during the next two years or so. This apart, projects for electrification/lighting in 2309 villages/hamlets, including 975 villages/hamlets in the North-Eastern Region, that will not receive grid connectivity under the Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY) which are under various stages of implementation are likely to be completed during 2007-08.

Integrated rural energy system for farmers

2216. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are planning to set up an integrated rural energy system to meet the requirement of farmers;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the focus would be on harnessing renewable energy technologies such as biogas, wind and solar energy and conventional energy sources like electricity, kerosene, diesel, soft coke and fuel; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) to (c) Programmes of the Ministry proposed for rural areas for the Eleventh Plan (2007-12) provide for central financial assistance for deployment of various types of renewable energy systems/devices for supplementary energy needs. In this regard, in villages that are already electrified or to be electrified under the Rajiv Gandhi Gramin Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY), non-electricity generation options such as biogas plants, solar thermal dryers etc. are available. In villages that will hot receive grid-connectivity under RGGVY, Solar Photovoltaic (SPV) home lighting systems for individuals are also